Appl. No. 10/042,653 Amdt. dated February 16, 2005 Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please insert the following new Abstract paragraph on page 19:

Data is written on a plurality of data tracks on an optical disk by a plurality of laser beams. The spots illuminated by the beams are spaced apart to prevent thermal interference. The spots are aligned along a line at an angle to the tangent of the data tracks. The angle of the line of spots is determined by an equation using variables that include the track pitch, the minimum distance between spots and the difference in track numbers between tracks being written.